

## **RAPID LATERAL FLOW TESTS FOR HOUSEHOLDS AND BUBBLES OF SCHOOL PUPILS**

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About 1 in 3 people with coronavirus do not have symptoms but can still pass it on to others. Regular testing of people without symptoms is important to help stop the virus spreading and protect your loved ones. As lockdown restrictions gradually ease we all need to play our part to help protect each other.

The following people in England will have access to regular rapid lateral flow testing made available to them as schools reopen:

- secondary school pupils
- primary and secondary school staff
- **households, childcare and support bubbles of primary and secondary-age pupils**
- households, childcare and support bubbles of primary and secondary staff

**NB. Primary school pupils will not be asked to test at this time.**

### **How to get a rapid lateral flow test**

There are different ways to get a test for school staff, pupils, and members of their households, childcare and support bubbles in England who do not have symptoms of coronavirus.

#### **Secondary school pupils**

Upon returning to school, secondary school pupils will be asked to take their:

- first 3 tests at their place of study under the supervision of a trained operator
- fourth test themselves using a home test kit

Pupils will then continue taking twice-weekly tests using a home test kit provided by their school. Pupils must report their result to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed, either online or by telephone, as set out in the home test kit instructions.

#### **Primary or secondary school staff**

Upon returning to school, teaching and non-teaching staff of primary and secondary schools should take twice-weekly tests using a home test kit provided by their school. This includes permanent, temporary and voluntary school staff.

Staff should contact their school for further details.

#### **Members of households, childcare or support bubbles of school staff and pupils**

This section does not apply to secondary school pupils, and primary and secondary school staff, who should take twice-weekly tests using home test kits provided by their school.

From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

### **Get a test through your employer**

Your workplace may offer rapid lateral flow testing to you. Contact your employer to find out more.

### **Collect test kits**

You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains 7 tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect. You can check online if the location is busy before you go. Find your nearest home test kit collection point: <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

### **Order home test kits online**

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

### **What twice-weekly testing involves**

You will be asked to:

- take a test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days apart)
- report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test
- Report your test result online or by calling 119.

If anyone tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, they should tell the school and:

- self-isolate immediately
- get a PCR test to confirm the result
- follow the stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus. But this does not guarantee you do not have coronavirus, so you should keep following all coronavirus advice including:

- regular handwashing
- social distancing
- wearing a face covering where recommended